Diagrams of two cases are presented, showing that a reduction of cardiac area really takes place, but more marked and more permanent from gymnastics than from the baths.—*Deutsche medicinische Wochenschrift*, 1897, No. 14, p. 220.

[Owing to errors in employment of the x-rays the actual reduction in size of the cardiac area as projected upon the plate is much less than here appears, as a very elementary knowledge of mathematics would show. These errors have been pointed out by Satterthwaite. It would have been interesting to know if this decrease of size is not partly accounted for by the more complete emptying of the ventricles, a point apparently overlooked by the author. —R. W. W.]

Eucaine.—DR. G. SCOGNAMIGLIO reports as follows: (1) The anæsthesia produced by this anæsthetic is more complete and lasts longer than that of cocaine. There is no mydriatic action nor any disturbing influence upon accommodation, and, further, it is indubitably less toxic. In ten cases of diseases of the nose and throat an 8 to 10 per cent. solution was used. The results excelled those of cocaine. The anæsthesia developed rapidly and extended over a large area. Perlati has reported that in dental practice he found that complete anæsthesia is effected, and teeth can be extracted quite painlessly; nor did he meet with any toxic symptoms. In ophthalmic practice it was employed in fifteen cases, and the anæsthetic effect was found to be distinctly preferable to that of cocaine, with the exception of a few cases where a subcutaneous ischæmic action is desired. Of fifteen cases of minor surgery, in two only was it necessary to repeat the injections (10 per cent.) on account of the lengthy operation.—*The Therapist*, 1897, No. 4, p. 33.

DRS. LEGNER and LIHOU have found that this substance produces a slight slowing of the pulse, but the blood-pressure is unaltered. To reduce the latter large doses are necessary, the animal dying from respiratory paralysis. As regards its safety, it may be said that no inconveniences, not even the slight ones, have been observed. The anæsthesia is equal to that of cocaine and even more rapid; and, finally, the toxicity is about half that of cocaine. —*Gazette des Hôpitaux*, 1897, Nos. 19, p. 183; 20, p. 191.

M. A. LEGRAND makes use of a 1 per cent. solution, and notes in employing Schleich's method that each point of insertion is marked by a rose-colored zone, so that the line for the intended incision is well marked. With solutions of the same percentage the anæsthesia is not so profound and its duration less than with cocaine. During the operation the pulse is slower, but this retardation generally disapppears within seven hours after operation. Operations for excision of veins, adenitis, hernia, varicocele, were successfully carried out under its influence.—*Les Nouveaux Remèdes*, 1897, No. 6, p. 161.

DR. G. VINCI replies to the strictures of M. Pouchet (see this JOURNAL, 1897, No. 4, p. 592) and states that his observations, confirmed by Charteris, show that eucaine is less toxic than cocaine. The general symptoms of poisoning are, in the main points, identical; but with equal doses they are less marked with the former. Nor in a large experience have the prodromal symptoms been wanting. The influence upon the heart is not greater; both substances slow the rate and slightly elevate blood-pressure, but only poisonous doses diminish pressure, as well with eucaine as with cocaine. The former gives as intense an anæsthesia, but of shorter duration than that of the latter.—*Bulletin Général de Thérapeutique*, 1897, 6e liv. p. 170.

Ichthyol in Pulmonary Tuberculosis.—DR. HEINRICH FRAEKEL reviews the literature, noting that externally the drug narrows the capillaries and reduces the cardinal symptoms of inflammation. From his observations upon thirty patients he reports that the cough was lessened, the expectoration diminished both in consistency and amount, and expelled with greater ease, the night-sweating ceased, the general condition improved. The preparation employed is equal parts of ichthyol (pure ammonium sulpho-ichthyolate) and distilled water, of which twenty to forty drops are given four times daily. To correct the taste a few drops of oil of peppermint are added to the dose, which is taken in a full glass of water before meals. The odor and taste may cause nausea and vomiting in sensitive indivdiuals, but without producing irritation of the stomach, so that in this case it should be given in gelatine capsules.—*Therapeutische Wochenschrift*, 1897, No. 15, S. 357.

The Use of Thymus Gland in Chlorosis.—DR. RAOUL BLONDEL presents a new theory of this disease as follows: chlorosis is an intoxication by the diverse products of faulty assimilation in the economy during the period of growth, which destroy the antitoxic action of the internal secretion of the thymus in infancy and later of the ovary. If the succession of these two antitoxic actions does not take place normally; if the thymus disappears too soon or altogether; if the ovary develops its internal secretion too late or furnishes it irregularly, there is produced a physiological interregnum during which the poisoning by these products of faulty assimilation produce themselves without hindrance. Three instances of the application of this theory are presented; all were young girls who ceased to menstruate early and showed the clinical symptoms of the disease. The raw thymus gland of the calf to the amount of five drachms was given each day for a month. Later the gland was given minced, then in soup. Beyond disgust for the remedy there was nothing unpleasant following its use. The urine contained an increase of phosphates. The results were excellent.—*Bulletin Général de Thérapeutique*, 1897, 8e liv. p. 233.

The Action of Taka-diastase in Various Gastric Disorders.—DR. JULIUS FRIEDENWALD has made a very careful clinical study, making use of modern chemical tests, and concludes that: (1) This remedy exerts no influence under normal conditions upon gastric digestion nor upon cases of nervous dyspepsia with normal motor and secretory functions. (2) In cases of motor disturbances of the stomach, with normal secretory functions, such as atony, it increases the motor action without in any way influencing the secretory function or the digestion of starches. (3) In cases of subacidity it acts differently, according to whether there is a catarrh or a nervous dyspepsia. In nervous cases it has no effect whatever upon digestion, while in cases of catarrh it appears to have a tendency to increase the flow of acid and promote the digestion of starches. (4) It exerts its most favorable influence in cases of superacidity, not only promoting the digestion of starches, but dimin-